## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

## the City Of Augusto

## **Proclamation**

IN RECOGNITION of "National Stroke Awareness Month"

WHEREAS, every 53 seconds someone in the United States experiences a stroke; and

WHEREAS, stroke, or brain attack, is the third leading cause of death in America, killing 160,000 people annually; and

WHEREAS, Georgia is the 6<sup>th</sup> state leading in deaths due to stroke, it is considered the "buckle" of the stroke belt, (which is mostly the southeast), stroke is the leading cause of disability in America, and every year stroke kills twice as many women as breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, there are more than four million stroke survivors in the United States, with two-thirds living with moderate to severe disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the United States spends more than \$52 billion in direct and indirect costs on stroke; and

WHEREAS, a majority of Americans cannot identify a single symptom of stroke which include sudden trouble talking, walking or seeing and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, stroke is one of the most preventable of all life-threatening health problems yet many Americans don't discuss their stroke risks with their primary health care providers; and

WHEREAS, public awareness of the risks and warning signs of a stroke is essential to prevention and early treatment. Prompt treatment of stroke can save lives and reduce disability; and

WHEREAS, National Stroke Association celebrates National Stroke Awareness Month in May and urges people to take charge of their health by asking their doctors about stroke risks and adopting healthy lifestyle habits to lower their risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim May as "STROKE AWARENESS MONTH" in Augusta, Georgia, and encourage all citizens to ask their doctors about stroke prevention and the warning signs of stroke.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia, to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2005.